



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

209 East Mulberry • Suite 500 • Angleton, Texas 77515

Phone: (979) 849-5251, Ext. 4 • Fax: (979) 849-7190 • TDD: (254) 742-9712 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx>

Date: May 2, 2006
Release Number: TX 211.06

Contact Name: Deborah Wright
Phone Number: 979-849-5251, Ext. 4
Email: Deborah.Wright@tx.usda.gov

GROUNDBREAKING FOR CITY OF HITCHCOCK WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES PLANNED

HITCHCOCK, TEXAS, May 2, 2006— The City of Hitchcock conducted a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate water system upgrades and the construction of a new water storage facility. USDA Rural Development is providing \$1,198,000 in loan and \$663,000 in grant funds through the agency's Community Programs, Water and Waste Disposal Loan Program and Natural Disaster Grant Program. The ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2006, beginning at 10:30 a.m., at the current water plant, 7918 Neville, Hitchcock, Texas.

"One of the goals of USDA Rural Development is to provide water and wastewater treatment programs that target public health benefits and provide economic opportunities to America's rural communities," said Bryan Daniel, State Director. "Rural Texans can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance their quality of life."

In Fiscal Year 2005, \$80.7 million of loan and grant assistance was distributed throughout rural Texas to 315,249 households. USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Programs are designed to bring fresh, clean drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes, that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms, are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information, please contact the Angleton Local Office at (979) 849-5251, Ext. 4, or visit us on the web at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

###

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).